

## Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

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APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MJWILKINSON  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SEDU, UR, TGEN

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION AT PUSHKIN INSTITUTE:  
PROGRAM OF CENTER FOR FOREIGN STUDY

REF: A). MOSCOW 19923, B). STATE 304166

1. DEPTOFF HAS SPOKEN AT LENGTH WITH DR. GLEN R. GALE, OF  
CENTER FOR FOREIGN STUDY (CFS), OPERATED BY HIM AS A  
PRIVATE FIRM WHICH ARRANGES LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION IN FOREIGN  
COUNTRIES FOR A FEE. ACCORDING TO GALE, HE ACCEPTED AT  
FACE VALUE EXPLICIT ORAL ASSURANCES FROM PUSHKIN INSTITUTE  
DURING VISIT THERE LAST SUMMER. ON BASIS OF THIS AND  
SUBSEQUENT CABLE FROM SOKHIN (PARA 2 BELOW) HE ARRANGED  
TRANSPORTATION. PREPARATION IS TO THE POINT THAT A STUDENT  
GROUP IS READY TO GO ON FEW DAYS NOTICE AND IN FACT EXPECTS  
TO TRAVEL NO LATER THAN EARLY FEBRUARY. FROM GALE'S  
VANTAGE POINT, "REVERSAL" OF SOVIET DECISION IS PLACING  
ORGANIZERS AND STUDENTS IN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION SINCE UNITED  
STATES WINTER SEMESTER IS BEGINNING NOW AND STUDENTS WHO  
HAVE PLANNED FOR PUSHKIN SOJOURN CANNOT EASILY ARRANGE  
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ALTERNATIVES. TEN STUDENTS ARE INVOLVED.

2. WHILE IT SEEMS EVIDENT THAT CFS AND PUSHKIN HAVE NOT  
COMMUNICATED WELL WITH EACH OTHER, GALE HAS PROVIDED A COPY

OF THE FOLLOWING TELEX HE RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 15, 1976  
(OUR TRANSLATION):

BEGIN TEXT: YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 4 AND TELEGRAM HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. WE CAN ACCEPT A GROUP OF STUDENTS IN THE SECOND SEMESTER FOR FOUR MONTHS IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY UNDER THE CONDITION OF ITS INCLUSION IN THE PLAN OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE USA FOR 1977. SOKHIN. END TEXT.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE CONDITION IMPOSED BY SOKHIN'S LAST SENTENCE, IT WOULD SEEM THAT MATTER IS ADEQUATELY COVERED BY SECTION I, PARA 5 OF 1977-79 PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES. FURTHERMORE, AS ALLUDED TO IN REF. B. SOVIET NEGOTIATORS VIGOROUSLY PRESSED US FOR ACTION TO PROMOTE STUDY OF RUSSIAN BY AMERICANS (SECTION I, PARA 6). INTENT OF THESE TWO PARAGRAPHS IS CLEAR AND IT WOULD BE DISAPPOINTING IF DOCUMENT IS NOW TO BE CITED AS A RESTRICTIVE FACTOR.

4. WE CAN ALSO UNDERSTAND POSSIBILITY OF PUSHKIN INSTITUTE DIFFICULTIES IN CHOOSING AMONG COMPETING U.S. APPLICANTS FOR LIMITED SPACE, AS MENTIONED REF. A. FOCUSING NARROWLY ON UPCOMING SEMESTER, HOWEVER, IT OCCURS TO US THAT GIVEN LATENESS OF THE HOUR, OTHER U.S. INSTITUTIONS ARE UNLIKELY TO FILL UP ANY SPACES TENTATIVELY HELD FOR CFS AND FURTHER, THAT ACCEPTANCE FOR THIS SEMESTER WOULD NOT COMMIT PUSHKIN TO FURTHER PROGRAMS WITH CFS.

5. IN TRYING TO SORT THROUGH THE BACKGROUND, WE ARE STRUCK BY THE RELATIVE FIRMNESS OF SOKHIN'S CABLED COMMITMENT. IT ALSO SEEMS THAT "VICTIMS" IF SECOND SEMESTER UNCLASSIFIED

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PROGRAM FALLS THROUGH AT THIS JUNCTURE, WILL BE THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE. THEY ARE NOW IN SUSPENSE AND A CLEAR ANSWER, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, IN THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO AT LATEST APPEARS MERITED.

6. IF EMBASSY RECEIVES NO OBJECTION, REQUEST THAT YOU APPROACH SOKHIN AGAIN AND, AT YOUR DISCRETION, MFA CULTURAL DIVISION TO SEEK EARLY RESOLUTION OF SECOND SEMESTER ACCEPTANCE QUESTION.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OEXC, SEDU, TGEN, UR, US, PUSHKIN INSTITUTE  
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